

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY
FLINT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

Filed in office this the 1
day of July, 2020
at 8:45 o'clock A m.
Barbara A. Harrison
Clerk, Henry Superior Court

IN RE: Declaration of Judicial Emergency

Date: July 1, 2020

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RENEWED ORDER DECLARING JUDICIAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED that a Judicial Emergency exists in Henry County, Georgia affecting the courts such that there is a serious health emergency pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60(2)(D). *See* O.C.G.A. § 38-3-60(2)(D) (providing that “Judicial Emergency” means “[s]uch other serious emergency”).

WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED that the Judicial Emergency substantially endangers or infringes upon the normal functioning of the judicial system.

Therefore, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, Chief Judge Brian J. Amero of the Superior Court of Henry County, Flint Judicial Circuit DOES HEREBY ORDER AND DECLARE the existence of a Judicial Emergency in the Flint Judicial Circuit. The nature of this emergency is the continued transmission of Coronavirus/COVID-19 throughout areas near and surrounding the Flint Judicial Circuit as well as within the Circuit itself, the counties of residence of many of our court employees, and the potential infection of those who are required to appear in our courts and interact with large groups.

Thus, the undersigned hereby makes this declaration of a judicial emergency affecting the courts and clerk’s offices in Henry County as it relates to all matters that cannot be conducted via videoconference or teleconference.

Accordingly, IT IS THE ORDER of the Court that, in addition to the dictates set forth by the Honorable Harold D. Melton, as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, in the Supreme Court of Georgia’s Third Order Extending Declaration of Statewide Judicial

Emergency, no matters shall be heard by the Courts, except the Probate Court, from the date of entry of this Order through and including July 10, 2020, unless they can be conducted via videoconference or teleconference. **However, all courthouses within the Flint Judicial Circuit, with the exception of the State Court, shall remain open to the public during regular business hours to accept filings.**

Should the state of emergency extend beyond the period indicated above or should the nature of the emergency otherwise require modification by the Court, the Court will make a determination of available alternative remedies for the conduct of court business, as necessary, and a corresponding Order will be entered and distributed in accordance with Georgia law.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-63:

IT IS ORDERED that the Sheriff of Henry County shall post this Order on his public notification site and in the courthouses;

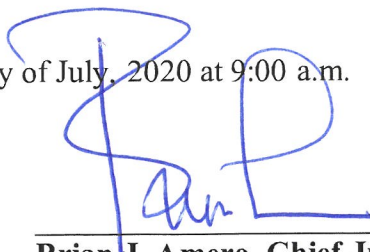
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Superior Court shall immediately notify and serve Chief Justice Harold D. Melton of the Supreme Court with a copy of this Order, such service to be accomplished via email to Tee Barnes, the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Georgia, at barnest@gasupreme.us;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Superior Court shall immediately notify and serve a copy of this order on the judges and clerks of all courts sitting within the jurisdictions affected and on the clerks of the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court, such service to be accomplished through reasonable means to assure expeditious receipt;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court shall give notice of the issuance of this Order to the affected parties, counsel for the affected parties, and the public; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County Manager or her designee shall post a copy of this notice and any subsequent amendment, modification or extension on the county website or other appropriate public access system.

BE IT SO ORDERED this 1st day of July, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.



Brian J. Amero, Chief Judge
Henry Superior Court
Flint Judicial Circuit

CC: Chief Justice, Georgia Supreme Court
All Judges and Clerks of Court
Sheriff
State Attorney General
District Attorney
Solicitor General
Chair, County Commission
Court Administration
County COO
News Media